

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 SS-14 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-09 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 EB-11

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R 281545 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7548

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, US, UR, CH

SUBJECT: LITERARY GAZETTE ON AMBASSADOR BRUCE' S APPOINTMENT

1. LITERARY GAZETTE MARCH 28 DISCUSSES AMBASSADOR BRUCE' S APPOINTMENT TO HEAD PEKING LIAISON GROUP. QUOTING PRESIDENT NIXON AND US COMMENTATORS, IT MAKES POINT THAT U. S. REPRESENTATION WILL HAVE HIGH PRESTIGE AND ENJOY ALL DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES. TONGUE- IN- CHEEK, IT RECITES RECORD OF BRUCE' S PUBLIC SERVICE AND CONNECTIONS WITH " EASTERN ESTABLISHMENT." FINALLY, IT DETAILS HIS PREVIOUS DIPLOMATIC ASSIGNMENTS AND ADDS PARENTHETICALLY AFTER EACH ONE SUCH ENDEARING COMMENTS AS:

-- AMBASSADOR TO GERMANY (CLOSE PERSONAL RELATIONS WITH ADENAUER);

-- AMBASSADOR TO UK (PUSHING THE JUNIOR PARTNER INTO COMMON MARKET);

-- HEAD OF DELEGATION TO PARIS TALKS (SABOTAGE OF TALKS, REFUSAL OF U. S. TO TAKE REALISTIC APPROACH TOWARD PATROTIC FORCES, POSSIBLE THAT BRUCE PREPARED SECRET CONTACTS BETWEEN U. S.

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AND CHINESE DIPLOMACY).

2. COMMENT: ONE CLEAR PURPOSE OF STORY IS TO SHOW THAT THE PEKING POST RANKS HIGH IN WASHINGTON'S PRIORITIES. AT SAME TIME, IT CASTS DOUBT ON CHINESE MOTIVES BY BURNISHING COLD- WAR IMAGE FOR MAN WITH WHOM THEY WILL BE DEALING.
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STION AT VIENNA AND TRIMMING THE MBFR AGENDA. ROTH SAID HE OBTAINED VARYING US VIEWS ON THE EXTENT TO WHICH CONGRESSIONAL PRESSURES MIGHT ACCELERATE THE US TIMETABLE FOR MBFR NEGOTIATIONS; HE INDICATED THIS IS LIKELY TO BE A MAJOR SOURCE OF STRAIN ON THE US DIALOGUE WITH THE FRG AND OTHER EUROPEAN ALLIES THROUGHOUT THE MBFR PROJECT. ROTH SAID HE REMAINS UNCLEAR (BUT WILL NOT BADGER THE USG) ON THE ULTIMATE USES OF MBFR IN US EAST/ WEST POLICY; BUT THE FRG STILL HOPES THE JUNE NAC MINISTERIAL WILL APPROVE A SHORT POLICY PAPER ON ALLIANCE GOALS IN MBFR-1, WHICH ROTH EXPECTS TO LAST INTO 1976. ROTH NOTED THE DEVELOPING ALLIANCE CONSENSUS FOR LIMITING INITIAL MBFR REDUCTIONS TO STATIONED FORCES, AND WELCOMED STATEMENTS OF US READINESS TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THE ANGLO- GERMAN DESIRE TO PROBE THE SOVIETS ON CONSTRAINTS AND REDUCTIONS ARE LIKELY TO COME TOGETHER. ROTH ALSO WELCOMED THE RATHER POSITIVE US ATTITUDE TOWARD A PHASED APPROACH AND STILL HOPES A US/ UK/ FRG DIVISION OF LABOR WILL BE USEFUL LATER ON" IN DEVELOPING CONCRETE ALLIED POSITIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. GENERAL: AMB ROTH TOLD EMBOFF MARCH 26 THAT HE WAS GRATEFUL FOR THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE VIEWS AGAIN ON MBFR ISSUES WITH THE DEPUTY SECRETARY AND SENIOR OFFICIALS AT STATE, THE PENTAGON AND THE WHITE HOUSE. ROTH WAS STRUCK BY THE REPEATEDLY
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PROFESSED UNDERSTANDING AND READINESS OF US OFFICIALS TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF GERMAN SUBSTANTIVE AND DOMESTIC POLITICAL REQUIREMENTS -- JUST AS ROTH HAD EXPLAINED A SIMILAR FRG WISH TO COOPERATE WITH THE USG ON US PROBLEMS. ROTH ALSO SENSED A SUBSTANTIAL CONSENSUS

BETWEEN CURRENT US AND FRG THINKING ON NUMEROUS
SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES. THE MAIN SOURCE OF GERMAN CONCERN
WAS THAT DOMESTIC US POLITICAL PRESSURES MIGHT REQUIRE
AN AGREEMENT ON REDUCTIONS SO EARLY ON THAT TIME
WOULD NOT PERMIT WASHINGTON TO TAKE FULL ACCOUNT OF
ALLIED INTERESTS IN CERTAIN COLLATERAL MEASURES.
ROTH'S OTHER MAIN WORRY IS THAT ALLIANCE COHESIVENESS
SHOULD NOT SUFFER IN THE PROCESS OF SEEKING DETENTE
WITH THE USSR. ROTH SAID HE WELCOMED THE SIMILAR
COMMENTS ON THIS SCORE FROM THE DEPUTY SECRETARY AND
OTHER US OFFICIALS.

2. VIENNA MIT: ROTH SAID HE BELIEVED BOTH THE US
AND FRG SIDES AGREED THAT THE MIT SHOULD AVOID
SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS AND SHOULD BE BROUGHT TO
THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE CONCLUSION IN ORDER TO AVOID
PREJUDICE TO OR FURTHER ALLIANCE ACRIMONY OVER
UNAGREED SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES, AND TO BUY MORE TIME

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